

CLAIMS:

1. 1. A dock leveller (1), comprising:
  2. a deck plate (5) having a deck upper surface (51), which deck plate is
  3. pivotably connectible with a platform (3);
    4. a lip (6) having a lip upper surface (61), which lip upper surface, with the
    5. deck upper surface, forms at least a part of a transport surface; and
    6. a lip hinge construction (8) with a pivot element which pivotably
    7. connects an end of the lip and an end of the deck plate of the dock leveller,
    8. wherein the lip upper surface, through the pivot element, is pivotable relative
    9. to a position in line with the deck upper surface, to both one side and the other
    10. side, and further comprising:
      11. a transmission member (87) for coupling a pivotal movement of the deck
      12. plate (5) to a pivotal movement of the lip (6).
1. 2. A dock leveller (1) according to claim 1, wherein the transmission
2. member (87) is arranged for keeping the lip upper surface (61) at a
3. substantially fixed angle with respect to the platform (3).
1. 3. A dock leveller (1) according to claim 1, wherein the transmission
2. member (87) comprises:
  3. a stiff element (87) which is pivotably connected with the lip (6) and is
  4. pivotably connectible with the platform (3).
1. 4. A dock leveller (1) according to claim 3, wherein the stiff element (87)
2. comprises an element (88) of variable length for pivoting a front edge of the
3. lip (6) relative to the rear edge (63) of the lip connected with the pivot element.

1       5. A dock leveller (1) according to claim 4, wherein the element of variable  
2 length comprises a pneumatic and/or hydraulic cylinder.

1       6. A dock leveller (1) according to claim 1, wherein the pivot element (82)  
2 has an upper surface (83) which is contiguous to the lip upper surface (61) and  
3 the deck upper surface (51).

1       7. A dock leveller (1) according to claim 6, wherein the surface (83) is at  
2 least partly bent about a rotation axis (82) and  
3              the lip (6) and the deck (5) in the coupled condition are rotatable relative  
4 to each other about the rotation axis (82).

1       8. A dock leveller (1) according to claim 7, wherein the surface (83) forms at  
2 least a portion of an outer surface of a cylinder, and a longitudinal axis of said  
3 cylinder coincides with the rotation axis (82).

1       9. A dock leveller according to claim 6, and optionally 7 or 8, characterized  
2 in that the pivot element comprises a hinge element of elastically deformable  
3 material.

1       10. A dock leveller (1) according to claim 1, wherein the maximum overall  
2 pivoting range of the lip is in the order of 14 degrees.

1       11. A dock leveller (1) according to claim 1, wherein the deck plate (5) in  
2 operative position can make an angle of at most 7 degrees with the platform (3).

1       12. A dock leveller (1) according to claim 1, wherein the lip upper  
2 surface (61) slopes down from the deck to a front end of the lip and in operation

3       is held at a small angle relative to the platform (3), which angle is, for instance,  
4       1 degree.

1       13.      A dock leveller (1) according to claim 12, wherein the small angle is  
2       coupled to a position of the deck plate and wherein in operation the small angle  
3       increases according as the deck plate, viewed from the platform, points down  
4       more.

1       14.      A dock leveller (1) according to claim 1, further comprising  
2       an extension hinge construction (7), which is connected with an end of the deck  
3       plate (5) remote from the lip (6), and is connectible with a platform edge.

1       15.      A dock leveller (1) according to claim 14, wherein the extension hinge  
2       construction comprises:

3                 a deck plate (5), and  
4                 a supporting device (10) for operatively supporting an edge (30) of the  
5                 deck plate (5) on a platform edge (3),  
6                 at least one rotation element (14) supported by the supporting device (10)  
7                 and situated near the platform edge (3), the edge (30) of the deck  
8                 plate (5) being at least partly supported by the rotation element (14), and  
9                 the deck plate (5) being movable relative to the rotation element (14).